

## WILLIAM AND MARY ELIZABETH RHODES MEEKS

William Meeks, son of Athel and Ann Vest Meeks.

Born January 9, 1815, in Charleston, South Carolina.

Married Mary Elizabeth Rhodes.

Died November 30, 1877, St. George, Utah, killed riding a horse. *664*

**MEEKS, WILLIAM.** Born 1815, Spencer county, Ind. Came to Utah 1852, Captain Nissonger company.

Married Mary Elizabeth Rhodes (daughter of George), who was born 1818. Their children: Harvey b. April 9, 1838, m. Catherine Dowle; Henry b. Jan. 1840, m. Ann Mecham; Elizabeth b. June 1841, m. Jared Bullock; May Annie b. Nov. 23, 1844, m. William Cummings; William b. 1846, m. Sarah Gardner; Joseph b. 1848, m. Vilate Burgess; Mary Jane b. 1850, m. James Pierce; Mary Melissa b. 1856, m. Willard Snow; Mary Louisa b. Aug. 23, 1859, m. James Gardner. Family home Provo, Utah.

## MIDWAY BIOGRAPHIES



Mary Elizabeth Rhodes, daughter of George Henry Rhodes and Elizabeth Nissinger. Born January 23, 1818, in Boone, Warrick County, Indiana. Died March 29, 1900 at Bicknell, Utah.

William came to Utah in 1852 in Capt. Nissonger's Company with his parents. After arriving in Utah the Meeks family moved to Nephi, Utah. Three years later they were called to go to Fort Supply in Wyoming where they stayed during the time Johnston's army came through.

In 1858 or 1859 William Meeks came into Provo Valley with Joseph Parker, William Cummings, William Wall and Andrew Ross. They cut some hay and fed their livestock on what they called Meek's Bottom about two miles southwest of the present Heber City.

During the winter of 1859 and 1860 William Meeks and others built a sawmill in Center Creek Canyon, which was the pioneer sawmill in the valley. A grand-daughter, Mary Ann Meeks Wirthlin says her grandfather, William Meeks suggested that the town be called Heber City, after the given name of Heber C. Kimball.

William Meeks was the first Presiding Elder in the valley. In 1860 he helped to build a log cabin, 16 feet by 40 feet which was used for the Pioneer Day celebration that year.

The Meeks family moved to Provo from Heber City and Midway, and from there to St. George where William was killed in a horse accident.

Children of William and Mary were:  
Harvey, married Catherene Dowdle  
Henry, married Ann Mecham  
Elizabeth, married Jared Bullock  
Mary Ann, married William Cummings  
William, married Sarah Gardner  
Joseph, married Vilate Burgess

Mary Jane, married James Pierce  
Mary Melissa, married Willard Snow  
Mary Louisa, married James Gardner.



WILLIAM MEEKS

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